

MARBLE HILL PRESS.

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No. 49.

OUR CORRESPONDENTS.

PATTON.

Sickness has abated and health is improving.

George Mingle of Buford's mill is visiting relatives here this week. Farmers are about done sowing oats and are now preparing for corn planting.

Linder Miller was buying cattle and hogs in this vicinity a few days last week.

Persons who are interested should set apart a day and clear up the Patton cemetery.

Rev. Beshears preached to a good congregation on the fifth Sunday, in the new church house, for the first time.

W. C. Young has brought a bride home. They are occupying apartments adjacent to his store. May their brightest anticipations be realized.

Mrs. J. M. Knowles has been visiting the family of John Smith of Ericktown, which has been terribly afflicted. One daughter, Ida, died of typhoid fever April 4, and another, Miss Emma, is not expected to live.

Merick Bollinger died Monday of heart failure, at the age of 72. He was found Tuesday morning lying on his back, with his arms outstretched.

Mr. Beal has moved to Ben Bollinger's place, where he will make a crop this year.

I agree with Sister Mollie that I had the wrong sow by the ear, but if I should guess again I could drive center.

Little Harry King died Monday and his funeral was preached in the church house at this place Tuesday evening.

Messrs. Whitaker, Knoll and others, all of Cape Girardeau, were visiting here.

Mr. Burton closed a five week meeting here Monday night and only seven conversions. That's what I call working for the Lord.

As poetry, of the original kind, is not my strong suit, I submit a few lines clipped, altered and fixed up for the benefit of whom it may concern:

Constable Coxe's mule made a bolt with him Friday and tore up the street at a 1:46 gait, spilling him and a sack of potatoes over the entire township.

It stands Jasper in hand to clean up his newground, for he knows he will have to make enough off it to pay Jamison or some other competent man to assess the county for him.

An old-time printer wants a job on a country paper. Anyone wanting a printer to take charge of a paper should address this office.—Col. Green.

Say, colonel, why don't you employ that printer? But I suppose you would if you were running a newspaper.

I didn't know there was a fountain of natural gas up in the dry flatwoods until I looked over the colonel's last effort. It came near exploding on the "old veteran" subject. I guess it didn't consume a great deal of Mr. Jamison's time to find a crooked place in the parson's cain.

When the Democratic party will die. When the lion eats grass like an ox And the fishing-worm swallows a whale, When the terrapin knits woolen socks And the hare is outrun by the snail, When serpents walk upright like men And doodle-bugs travel like frogs, When the grasshopper feeds on the hen And feathers are found on hogs, When Thomas cats swim in the air And elephants roost upon trees, When insects in summer are rare And snuff never makes people sneeze, When fishes creep over dry land And moles on velocipedes ride, When foxes lay eggs on the sand And women in dress take no pride, When Dutchmen drink no lager beer And girls get to preaching on time, When billy goats hunt from the rear And treason no longer is crime, When the humming-bird bays like an ass And limberger smells like cologne, When clowshares are made out of glass And the hearts of true Texans of stone, When the parson reduces county printing By putting in a bid of his own, When the democrats all to republicans turn And the populists, too, for the good they have done, When it's as grow in republican heads And wool on the hydraulic ram— Then the democratic party will be dead— And the country won't be worth a d—n.

A. P. Stevens was around last week delivering potatoes from a subscription house in New York. When will the supply of suckers be exhausted.

Frank Maurice, who has just returned from Ripley county, says he found plenty of work. That is more than you can do here, now, Frank. You had better have stayed.

Now we have all the excitement of any city of ten times our size. The latest is a case of smallpox. It is reported that Ol Hawn of West Lodge is now sick with the red disease. We should have quarantined long ago.

The indications showed that our bid had been given away.—De Karmel.

The leading tenet of your kind is to always claim that the "indica-

tions" show you are right and the other fellow dead wrong. You have the "crying eye" and other endowments of your tribe in reckless profusion. I had as soon try to find a dead mule as one of you who would acknowledge himself fairly beaten. And now, parson, some hard, cold facts for your digestion: Before the court was ready to give out the printing for 1894 you had simply made such an egregious ass of yourself as to win the contempt, not only of democrats, but of the party whose revenue you consider yours by divine right, and the court would not have been justified in giving you the contract at any price; so it very deliberately ignored you—failed to recognize your existence, and right it was.

THE KID

ZALMA.

Watch out! I come loaded this week.

Harry McPherson was in town Monday.

J. V. Slinkard was in Marble Hill Thursday and Friday.

Messrs. Flintge and Sutton of Cape Girardeau were in our town Thursday.

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Governor's Proclamation.

For a number of years the state has been disgraced by an organized and salaried lobby, maintained by special interests at the capital during the sessions of the general assembly for the purpose of influencing legislative action. Encouraged by a seeming lack of public resentment at their presence, and emboldened by repeated successes, these lobbyists have from year to year increased in numbers, influence and audacity, until they have become an almost dominating force in legislation.

So confident have they grown in their strength, and so potent in influence, that they now ply their vocation almost without disguise in defiance of public authority and in utter contempt of public opinion. It has come to pass that almost every important measure of legislation must undergo the scrutiny of the lobby before its fate can be determined. What it approves is not without hope, but what it condemns is lost.

Perhaps the most conspicuous illustration of this disgraceful domination is to be found in the treatment accorded the so-called fellow-servants' bill. I do not now discuss the merits of the measure; I refer only to the means adopted to suppress and defeat it. Those means have been so generally discussed in the press of the state, and the people have thus become so familiar with them, that I deem it unnecessary to restate them in detail.

A number of senators and representatives, as well as many good citizens, who have felt appalled at the overshadowing influence, and intimidated at the triumph of the lobby, have pressed upon me the question of the propriety of the general assembly to the end that the issue may be fairly presented and an open test made as to whether a just legislative measure of this character can be enacted into law in spite of the contaminating influence of those who openly boast their ability to direct the current of legislation.

These are strong words, I know, and I write them with the keenest regret. But it is clear to me that the time for mild protest is past. We are confronted by the question whether the people or the lobby shall rule in Missouri. The public safety and the honor of the state are at stake. Every senator, member, public official and citizen familiar with the truth knows that these words are justified by the situation at Jefferson City.

I believe that the condition of affairs to which I have adverted is alone sufficient to make it my imperative duty to recall the senators and representatives elected by the people in special session to consider the particular important subject of legislation to which I have referred, which has been so long delayed and so often defeated by influences dangerous to the public right. In this way it can be considered free from the multitude of other perplexing questions incident to a regular session, and thus every senator and representative can be afforded unhampered opportunity to discharge his duty to his constituency with the greatest deliberation and intelligence.

But there is also another question of the most commanding importance, the proper settlement of which should not be delayed. I refer to the laws governing elections in St. Louis and Kansas City. In the preservation of a free representative government nothing is so important as the purity of elections. Generally throughout this state I am confident elections are characterized by highest integrity; but, unfortunately, this is not true in the large cities.

It is known that gross frauds have been committed in these cities. The inducement and opportunity for corrupt practices in large, populous municipalities are great, and experience proves that dishonest men of

all parties have not been slow to debauch the elective franchise. Not a few consummate and dastardly outrages have been perpetrated.

Candor will compel a general admission that the disgrace of election frauds is fairly divided between the adherents of the different political organizations. The truth of this statement is made evident by the fact that both republicans and democrats, so called, have been recently indicted in St. Louis and Kansas City for active participation in such frauds.

In one of the wards in Kansas City, which has a "boss" so conspicuous and potent that the ward is currently referred to as his ward, there are twice as many voters registered as there are adult males residing therein. This "boss" is a noted republican politician.

In the same city it is well known that election returns have been fraudulently changed in the office of the recorder of votes, so as to alter the result of the polls as certified by the judges of election. The officer under whose administration the crime was perpetrated was a democrat.

When such wrongs are not only possible, but are actually and boldly committed, it is evident that the public safety imperatively requires such changes in the law as will not only terminate existing abuses, but prevent their repetition in future.

This is a question which affects the rights and interests of the people of the entire state almost as vitally as it does the people of the cities immediately concerned. When we reflect that about one-fourth of the total population of the state reside in St. Louis and Kansas City, and consider the tremendous influence which those cities can exert

in the election of national and state officials, and on the legislative policies of the state; no thoughtful or patriotic citizen can be oblivious or indifferent to the paramount importance of vigilantly guarding the ballot box against every description of fraud and crime.

Therefore, in view of the premises, and by virtue of authority in me vested by the constitution of the state of Missouri, I, William J. Stone, governor of the state of Missouri, do hereby convene the thirty-eighth general assembly of the state of Missouri in extra session, and I do hereby call upon the senators and representatives of the general assembly aforesaid to meet in their respective places in the capitol, in the City of Jefferson, at the hour of 12 o'clock noon on Tuesday, the 23d day of April, A. D. 1895, for the following purposes:

First—To enact such legislation as may be necessary and expedient to properly define the relations between the different classes of employees of railroad corporations in the state, and also the proper relations between all such employees and the railroad corporations employing them, and to define and fix the legal liability between the different employees themselves, and also between such employees and the said railroad corporations, for injuries done or received by one such employee as the result of the culpable negligence of another such employee while engaged in the service of such corporations.

Second—To provide such legislative enactments as may be necessary and expedient to prevent the maintenance of an organized lobby at the capital of the state, either to obstruct or promote any legislative or executive act, and also to regulate the manner of presenting any question affecting legislation by persons interested therein before the general assembly or any committee thereof.

Third—To enact such laws as may be necessary and expedient to prevent fraud against the elective franchise and to secure honest elections in all cities having 100,000 inhabitants.

Fourth—To consider any other subject that may be submitted by

special message during said extra session.

Fifth—To make an appropriation for the expenses of this extra session of the general assembly.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the great seal of the state of Missouri.

Done at the City of Jefferson, this third day of April, A. D. 1895.

WILLIAM J. STONE.

(SEAL.) By the governor.

A. A. LESUEUR,

Secretary of State.

SOUTHEAST NEWS.

Governor Stone has approved the bill to sell the state blind institute, located at Morgan and Nineteenth streets, St. Louis. The bill also provides for a new home to be located in a portion of the city better adapted to the requirements of the institution. The following commissioners have been appointed to make the sale: Senators J. N. Ballard, of Clinton, and Robert Drury, of Marble Hill; Representatives John W. Drabell, of St. Louis; J. F. Gmelich, of Booneville, and Frank R. O'Neil, of St. Louis.

Hon. Champ Clark of Pike county will lecture at Poplar Bluff tomorrow.

DeSoto Facts: Gus Enler, while firing one of the passenger engines the first of the week, shovelled his gold watch which fell out of his pocket, into the fire box.

Poplar Bluff Citizen: Last night a band of unknown persons canonaded the two story brick house in East Poplar Bluff with brick. The house is occupied by Mrs. Smith, and is a place of ill repute. The front door was bursted to pieces and all the downstairs windows broken out.

Dexter Messenger: John Harper, who was wanted here for the shooting of Christian Larsen over a year ago, was brought back Sunday and lodged in the Bloomfield jail. He was captured near Kingfisher, in the Indian Territory, and delivered over to Sheriff Patterson, who went after him. Harper is a bad man, or at least leaves this impression from his conversation. He was convicted of robbing the store of Charles Barham at Idalia about four years ago and was sentenced to the penitentiary for a term of two years. While being conveyed to Jefferson City he jumped through the car window while the train was running forty miles an hour and made his escape. A broken jaw was the result of his leap; and this caused his capture a few days later. The crime for which he is now incarcerated was the wounding of Christian Larsen during the holidays of 1893 at a dance two miles from Dexter. The shooting seemed to be without provocation.

A correspondent from Barfordville to the Jackson Cash-Book says, "Your Lutesville correspondent says Lutesville is improving very fast, which is a fact, as every family in the town of Gravel Hill has moved to that town except one."

Jackson Cash-Book: Jackson is now, by reason of the extension of the city limits, substantially and securely a democratic city. Next spring a democratic ticket will be put in the field and of course elected.

There is some talk of the Cape County Milling company discontinuing the Barfordville roller mill as a merchant mill and turning it into a custom mill.

A special of the 4th to the Republic says that at Cleona a village nine miles south of Greenville, Wayne county, John W. Spain was murdered by his half brother, George Spain, and step brother, William Rice. John W. Spain, the murdered man, was a blacksmith, and the trouble arose over some wagon wheels and resulted in a general fight. George Spain was armed with a club and William Rice with a gun. In the fight John Spain was knocked lifeless by Rice and Spain and died in a few hours. George Spain was captured this morning and lodged in the county jail. Rice was captured near Poplar Bluff by a posse of forty men.